

1 DECEMBER 1998



Operations

***INTELLIGENCE, SURVEILLANCE, AND
RECONNAISSANCE (ISR) PLANNING AND
OPERATIONS***

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This Policy Directive provides guidance for planning and conducting Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) operations.

1. Air Force ISR operations contribute to the realization of Joint Vision 2010, and ensure the Air Force gains and maintains Information Superiority. Information Superiority provides for a seamless, fused flow of accurate, timely, and relevant ISR information to warfighters and decisionmakers at all levels.

1.1. Air Force ISR operations will integrate Information Superiority concepts and objectives into all ISR planning and resource allocation activities. Planners at all levels will ensure ISR requirements are identified, prioritized, and satisfied by addressing factors such as availability of ISR assets, platforms and sensor capability, threats, and timeliness of ISR response to include non-traditional ISR sources and methodologies supporting offensive and defensive counterinformation operations.

1.2. Worldwide surveillance and reconnaissance is an integral part of the Air Force mission. Air Force ISR operations will provide specialized information products and services to the Air Force, other Services, and decisionmakers derived from aerospace assets, complementing services provided by the National Intelligence Community, other DoD intelligence components, and Allied Forces. The Air Force will be engaged in the design and establishment of a Department of Defense-wide, seamless, ISR virtual collection, processing, dissemination, integration, and production capability.

1.3. Air Force ISR operators will invest in technology, focusing on applications that will upgrade collection, exploitation, analysis, near-real-time (NRT) integration, and dissemination for warfighter needs. Air Force ISR operators will also be embedded into the Air Force acquisition process to ensure early and sustained support throughout the life of an acquisition program. The Air Force acquisition process will have ISR participation on a "cradle-to-grave" basis, with ISR operators actively engaged in the definition of ISR training and operational requirements. Operational requirements will consider connectivity and dissemination of ISR and strive to eliminate stand-alone and duplicative systems.

1.4. Air Force ISR operational readiness will be sustained through a highly motivated, well trained and equipped force. The force will be educated, trained, and exercised in ISR processes, capabilities,

applications, and products in a variety of realistic scenarios to ensure a robust ISR capability across the spectrum of military operations.

2. This directive establishes the following responsibilities and authorities:

2.1. The Director of ISR, Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations (HQ USAF/XOI), oversees implementation of Air Force strategy, policy, and guidance governing ISR operations. HQ USAF/XOI serves as the senior Air Force intelligence officer and represents the Air Force on the Military Intelligence Board and within the National Intelligence Community (IC). HQ USAF/XOI directs the activities of the Air Intelligence Agency.

2.2. Air Intelligence Agency (AIA), a field operating agency (FOA) subordinate to HQ USAF/XOI provides a broad range of functional expertise, and provides products and services to satisfy national, theater, component, and unit-level customers. Acts as the USAF Service Cryptologic Element (SCE). Provides support to and operates Air Force ISR units worldwide.

2.3. Each MAJCOM will ensure that Air Force ISR units and staffs are directly integrated into operational forces for planning and executing aerospace missions to include Information Operations (IO).

3. This policy applies to all military and civilian Air Force personnel and members of the Air Force MAJCOMs and the Air National Guard.

4. See [Attachment 1](#) for references, abbreviations, acronyms, and terms.

5. See [Attachment 2](#) for measures of compliance.

F. WHITTEN PETERS
Acting Secretary of the Air Force

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

Joint Vision 2010

Global Engagement

Intelligence Mission Support Plan, I-MSP

Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Development Plan

Surveillance and Reconnaissance - Mission Area Plan (MAP)

Reconnaissance Roadmap

Air Force Strategic Plan

Air Force Long Range Plan

Joint Intelligence Guidance

AFDD 2-5, Information Operations

AFDD 2-5.2, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance

AFPD 14-1, Air Force Intelligence Planning and Operations

AFI 14-1XX Series

AFI 10-22XX Series

AFI 10-601, Mission Needs and Operational Requirements

Joint Pub 1-02, The DoD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms

Joint Pub 2-0, Doctrine for Intelligence Support to Joint Operations

DoD Directive 5100.1, Functions of the Department of Defense and Its Major Components

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIA—Air Intelligence Agency

FOA—Field Operating Agency

ISR—Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance

MAJCOM—Major Command

SORTS—Status of Resources and Training System

Terms

Information Operations—(IO)--Those actions taken to gain, exploit, defend, or attack information and information systems. This includes both information-in-war and information warfare. (AFDD 2-5)

Information Superiority (IS)—That degree of dominance in the information domain which allows friendly forces the ability to collect, control, exploit, and defend information without effective opposition. (AFDD 2-5)

Information Warfare (IW)—Information operations conducted to defend one's own information and information systems, to attack, and affect an adversary's information and information systems. (AFDD 2-5)

Information in War (IIW)—Involves the Air Force's extensive capabilities to provide global awareness throughout the range of military operations based on integrated intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) assets; its information collection/dissemination activities; and its global navigation and positioning, weather, and communications capabilities. (AFDD 2-5)

Intelligence—1. The product resulting from the collection, processing, integration, analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of available information concerning foreign countries or areas.

2. Information and knowledge about an adversary obtained through observation, investigation, analysis, or understanding. (Joint Pub 1-02)

Surveillance—The sustained systematic observation of aerospace, surface or subsurface areas, places, persons, or things by visual, aural, electronic, photographic, or other means. (Joint Pub 2-0)

Reconnaissance—A transitory mission undertaken to obtain, by visual observation or other detection methods, information about the activities and resources of an enemy or potential enemy, or to secure data concerning the meteorological, hydrographic, or geographic characteristics of a particular area. (Joint Pub 2-0)

Virtual Production—A networked process involving simultaneous, integrated analysis among geographically separated producers and flexible, digital delivery of intelligence products and services. These digital product lines will feature updated data bases, textual intelligence files, target materials, and geospatial information that users can access electronically and customize according to needs. (Program Managers Guidance Memorandum)

Attachment 2

MEASURING AND DISPLAYING COMPLIANCE WITH POLICY

A2.1. Compliance with policy concerning readiness of ISR forces will be assessed by monitoring the Status of Resources and Training System (SORTS) reporting on Air Force intelligence and reconnaissance units (Figure A2.1.). The goal is for all Air Force intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance units to achieve and maintain a C-1 rating which means a unit possesses the required resources and is trained to undertake the full wartime mission for which it is organized or designed. The desired trend and objective is to increase the percentage of C-1 ratings Air Force-wide.

Figure A2.1. Sample Metric of ISR Readiness.

